**The Six Themes**

**1. Global Challenges**

• Diversity Issues—tolerance

• Economic Issues

• Environmental Issues

• Health Issues

• Human Rights

• Nutrition and Food Safety

• Peace and War

**2. Beauty and Aesthetics**

• Architecture

• Contributions to World Artistic Heritage

• Ideals of Beauty

• Literature

• Music

• Performing Arts

• Visual Arts

**3. Families and Communities**

• Age and Class

• Childhood and Adolescence

• Citizenship

• Customs and Ceremonies

• Family Structures

• Friendship and Love

**4. Personal and Public Identities**

• Alienation and Assimilation

• Beliefs and Values

• Gender and Sexuality

• Language and Identity

• Multiculturalism

• Nationalism and Patriotism

**5. Science and Technology**

• Current Research Topics

• Discoveries and Inventions

• Ethical Questions

• Future Technologies

• Intellectual Property

• The New Media

• Social Impact of Technology

**6. Contemporary Life**

• Advertising and Marketing

• Education

• Holidays and Celebrations

• Housing and Shelter

• Leisure and Sports

• Professions

• Rites of Passage

• Travel

**Overarching Essential Questions for each of the Six Themes:**

**1. Global Challenges:** What environmental, political and social issues pose challenges to societies throughout the Spanish-Speaking world? What are the origins of those issues? What are the possible solutions to those challenges?

**2. Beauty and Aesthetics:** How are perceptions of beauty and creativity established? How do ideals of beauty and aesthetics influence daily life? How to the arts both challenge and reflect cultural perspective?

**3. Families and Communities:** What constitutes a family in different societies? How do individuals contribute to the well-being of communities? How do the roles that families and communities assume differ in societies around the world?

**4. Personal and Public Identities:** How are aspects of identity expressed in various situations? How do language and culture influence identity? How does one’s identity develop over time?

**5. Science and Technology:** How do developments in science and technology affect our lives? What factors have driven innovation and discovery in the fields of science and technology? What role do ethics play in scientific advancement?

**6. Contemporary Life:** How do societies and individuals define quality of life? How is contemporary life influenced by cultural products, practices, and perspectives? What are the challenges of contemporary life?